

REMARKS

Claims 6 and 11 have been amended. Claims 4 and 13 have been cancelled. Claims 1-3, 5-12, and 14-18 are currently pending in the application.

On page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1-7, 9-14, and 16-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0050976 (Block) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,263,335 (Paik).

Applicants respectfully submit that the feature of the present invention regarding a date of birth of a representative of a community site, or a person related to the representative, date-and-time information of an event, date-and-time information outputted from a timer unit, and automatically extracting commodity information from a commodity database, suitable for the date-and-time information, is not disclosed or suggested by Block or Paik.

Block simply discloses information pertaining to providing a window area configured to display a selection of information. Block is concerned with determining access levels.

Paik describes extracting news articles from a database based on a specific entity or its relation to a person or the like. Paik discloses that, in order to organize information to be extracted in a chronological manner, referring to a chronological information extraction system (CHESS) and extracting information which is time-stamped.

However, "data-and-time information in Paik is the date and time when the information was registered in the database, thus the meaning of the term is different from that of the present invention, where "date-and-time" is directed to a specific date-and-time (e.g., date of birth, memorial day) of theme information (a representative or a person related to the representative).

Further, Paik is directed to an information extraction system that allows users to ask questions about documents in a database. According to Paik, the Paik system responds to queries by returning information extracted from the documents which could be relevant. The system also builds its own subject knowledge base and can be applied to any new corpus of text with results and no requirement for lengthy manual input. Paik further indicates that its system is a dynamic system in that it can acquire new knowledge and add the new knowledge to the knowledge base by automatically identifying new concepts, names, or events.

According to the description provided for a specific embodiment disclosed in Paik, the Paik system extracts from news articles and news feeds information about named entities and

their relations to any named entity or concept: events, organizations, people, or other concepts. The information is then merged into a single profile, with reference to original sources and then organized chronologically to create an instant biography. According to Paik, the information can be retrieved by the user either in response to W-H questions or the information can be utilized by browsing through a hyperlinked, graphical summary of all of the information on any named entity in the database.

Paik further specifies that as the system organizes information chronologically, the system is referred to as Chronological information extraction system (CHES). According to the specific embodiment of Paik disclosed, extraction of time-stamped information from a database including news articles for several years occurs.

Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1, 2, 9-11, and 16-17 are patentable over Block in view of Paik, as neither Block nor Paik, taken alone or in combination, teaches or suggests, "a processor capable of performing an operation of extracting the commodity information from the commodity database according to a chronological value, based on the date-and-time information of the theme information and the date-and-time information output from the timer unit," as recited by claim 1, for example.

On page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner admits that Block does not teach a central apparatus further including a timer unit and the feature wherein a processor of a central apparatus is further capable of performing an operation of extracting commodity information from a commodity database according to a chronological value, based on date-and-time information of the theme information and the date-and-time information output from a timer unit.

The Examiner alleges, however, that Paik teaches an information extraction system and method, "using concept-relation-concept (CRC) triples (see abstract), in which he teaches the central apparatus further includes a timer unit, and wherein a processor of the central apparatus is further capable of performing an operation of extracting the commodity information from the commodity database according to a chronological value, based on date-and-time information of the theme information and the date-and-time information output from the timer unit."

In contrast to the present invention, Paik merely discloses that information is extracted from a database. Although Paik indicates that the information is time-stamped, Paik does not disclose how the information is extracted. For example, the information could be merely extracted in a manner that is not based on a chronologically value. That is, Paik provides no detail regarding how the information is extracted.

Moreover, assuming *arguendo* (for the purpose of argument) that the information in Paik

is extracted according to a chronological value, the information is not extracted based on date-and-time information of theme information and date-and-time information output from a timer unit, as Paik does not teach or disclose theme information or a timer unit.

In light of the foregoing, independent claims 1, 2, 9-11, and 16-17 are patentable over the references. As dependent claims 3-7 and 12-14 depend from respective independent claims, the dependent claims are patentable over the references for at least the reasons presented for the independent claims.

Claims 8 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Block in view of Paik and further in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0095442 (Hunter). As Hunter merely allows a user to perform a subject search by typing a subject name into a search engine, Hunter does not disclose or suggest the above-identified feature of the present invention.

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

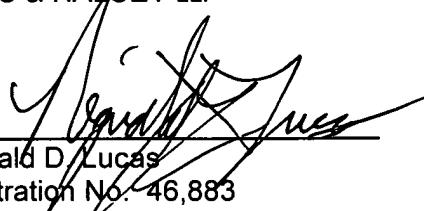
If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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